

Message Text

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ACTION SCSE-00

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 H-02 /009 W

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R 101031Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7085

UNCLAS MONROVIA 5329

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC, LI (SANDOO, KEME KONAH)

SUBJECT: W/W (CHILD CUSTODY: KEME KONAH SANDOO)

REF: A. STATE 214223 AND PREVIOUS

B. STATE 093729 AND PREVIOUS

1. MRS. KAY REMER SPOKE TO CONSOFF 9-9-75 CONCERNING PRESENCE IN LIBERIA. MRS. REMER STATED PURPOSE OF LIBERIAN VISIT WAS TO VISIT CHILD, KEME, BUT HAD LITTLE HOPE OF SUCCESS OBTAINING CUSTODY. SHE CONSIDERING LEGAL ACTION THROUGH LIBERIAN COURTS BUT FRANKLY PESSIMISTIC ABOUT CHANCES, ESPECIALLY IN LIGHT OF DECISION BURNETTE-TURNER CASE (REF. B). MRS. REMER HAS SEEN CHILD BRIEFLY DURING VISIT TO SCHOOL, BUT AFTER FATHER'S ARRIVAL AND PROTESTATIONS, BROKE OFF VISIT.

2. MRS. REMER AWARE OF OBSTACLES AND ALSO OF LIMITATION ANY ACTION EMBASSY MAY TAKE. CONSOFF GAVE MRS. REMER LAWYERS LIST AND OFFERED TO BE OF ALL POSSIBLE HELP IF SHE HAD ANY SPECIFIC REQUESTS. CONSOFF ALSO INFORMED MRS. REMER HE WILL MONITOR ANY LEGAL PROCEEDINGS SHE MAY INITIATE CONCERNING CHILD. MRS. REMER EXPRESSED APPRECIATION EMBASSY ACTIONS SO FAR.

3. FYI DEPARTMENT: EMBASSY'S ABILITY TO RENDER APPROPRIATE EFFECTIVE ASSISTANCE TO MRS. REMER IS NOT GREAT. FATHER, BOYMAH SANDOO WELL CONNECTED IN LIBERIAN OFFICIAL CIRCLES, AND IF MRS. REMER INITIATES LEGAL ACTION, HE WILL PROBABLY MAKE EFFECTIVE USE OF LIBERIAN LEGAL SYSTEM AND LAW THAT FAVORS MALE PARTY IN CHILD CUSTODY CASES. CONSOFF WILL OFFER MRS. REMER SYMPATHETIC CONSIDERATION BUT EMBASSY UNCLASSIFIED

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PESSIMISTIC ANY FAVORABLE RESOLUTION OF CASE. SENATOR

ADLAI E. STEVENSON INTERESTED.
BEAN

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